

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 L-02 AGR-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SP-02 STR-01

TRSE-00 CIEP-01 FRB-03 OMB-01 AID-05 /056 W

----- 099178

R 301538Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6833

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 981

GENEVA FOR PHELAN

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD CO

SUBJ: USG/GOC TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS

1. FORMAL TALKS WITH GOC BEGAN MORNING OF JANUARY 27 AND BY END OF AFTERNOON SESSION IT WAS CLEAR GOC WAS NOT PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE FOR TWO REASONS: A) THE GOC HAD NOT MADE A DECISION INTERNALLY TO NEGOTIATE ON A MULTIFIBER BASIS; AND B) EVEN IF SUCH A DECISION HAD BEEN MADE, GOC SIMPLY NOT PREPARED IN TERMS OF DATA, PROJECTIONS, ETC. TO NEGOTIATE IN A MANNER WHICH WOULD BEST SERVE ITS LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OR MAKE FOR MEANINGFUL, REALISTIC NEGOTIATIONS WITH USG.

2. THE ABOVE IMPRESSIONS WERE STRONGLY REINFORCED IN PRIVATE MEETING WHICH AMBASSADOR AND JURICH HAD WITH GOC MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT RAMIREZ OCAMPO AND HEAD DELEGATE DELANCO. AS A RESULT, DURING THIS PRIVATE MEETING, IT WAS AGREED TO RESUME THE NEGOTIATIONS AT END MARCH, THE INTERIM TIME TO BE USED BY GOC FOR NECESSARY POLITICAL AND SUBSTANTIVE PREPARATION. THE MARCH SESSION WILL BE DEVOTED TO THE DISCUSSION OF A COMPREHENSIVE, ALL FIBER BILATERAL.

3. IN SAME PRIVATE MEETING, MINISTER RAMIREZ ADVISED  
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BY US SIDE OF ALTERNATIVE COURSES OF ACTION USG HAD,

IF MARCH TALKS DID NOT RESULT IN SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT  
ON COMPREHENSIVE, I.E. ARTICLE 3 ACTION.

4. DURING BOTH FORMAL AND INFORMAL TALKS WITH GOC,  
IT WAS VERY CLEAR GOC HAD LITTLE, IF ANY, IDEA OF  
ITS TEXTILE TRADE LEVELS WITH US. LIKEWISE, GOC WAS  
UNFAMILIAR WITH BASIC STRUCTURE OF USG BILATERALS  
NEGOTIATED SINCE MFA EFFECTED. MOST IMPORTANTLY, GOC  
OBVIOUSLY LABORING UNDER SOME BASIC MISCONCEPTIONS  
AFTER MFA AND ITS "LEGISLATIVE" HISTORY. FOR EXAMPLE,  
GOC INVITED USG TAKE ARTICLE 3 ACTION BECAUSE GOC  
QUOTE VIEWED ARTICLE 3 AS POSITIVE, LIBERAL STEP UNQUOTE.  
GOC'S OWN INDUSTRY REPS VISIBLY SHUDDERED WHEN HEAD  
DELEGATE GALEANO MADE THAT STATEMENT.

5. LIKEWISE, IN FIRST DAY'S SESSION, GOC TRIED  
MAINTAIN POSITION THAT THERE WERE REALLY ONLY TWO  
CHOICES: A BILATERAL AGREEMENT OR NO AGREEMENT.  
WE BELIEVE GOC NOW REALIZES THAT ITS CHOICES UNDER MFA  
ARE A BILATERALLY NEGOTIATED COMPREHENSIVE OR A PROCESS  
LEADING TO IMPOSED RESTRAINTS.

6. HENCE, MINISTER RAMIREZ PERSONALLY ASKED US SIDE  
FOR A PRIVATE MEMORANDUM ON OUR PERCEPTION OF GOC  
TEXTILE TRADE WITH USG, WHAT USG HAD IN MIND IN  
TERMS OF COMPREHENSIVE BILATERAL AND EXPLANATION OF  
IMPLICATIONS OF THE ALTERNATIVE (E.G. ARTICLE 3).  
US SIDE HAS BEGUN PREPARATION OF SUCH MEMORANDUM.

4. UNDER ALL THE ABOVE CONDITIONS, US SIDE FELT  
IT BEST NOT RPT NOT TO TAKE ARTICLE 3 ACTION NOW.  
WHEN THE GOC HAS DONE ITS HOMEWORK AND PARTICULARLY  
WHEN IT REALIZES (THROUGH US PAPER, PARA 6 AND COLOMBIAN  
INDUSTRY PRESSURE) THAT ARTICLE 3 IS HARDLY A STEP  
FORWARD, WE BELIEVE GOC WILL COME TO TABLE IN MARCH  
PREPARED TO STRIKE A DEAL. GOC IS SURELY AWARE IF  
IT DOES NOT, USG WILL HAVE TO TAKE THE NECESSARY AND  
PERMITTED STEPS UNDER THE MFA TO PROTECT ITS MFA  
RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS.

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8. IT IS NOW CLEAR THAT CONTINUED GOC MINISTERIAL  
INVOLVEMENT IN THE MARCH TALKS WILL BE ESSENTIAL.  
THAT BEING THE CASE, IT IS MOST UNLIKELY THAT MINISTER  
RAMIREZ CAN BE AWAY FROM BOGOTA FOR SUCH A LONG PERIOD  
AND, HENCE, WE BELIEVE US DEL SHOULD BE PREPARED RETURN TO  
BOGOTA.  
VAKY

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## Message Attributes

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